

# The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 2982

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1891.

SIX DOLLARS PER QUARTER

## Banks.

### THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

Authorized Capital.....\$1,000,000  
Subscribed Capital.....\$500,000

Head Office.—Hongkong.

Court of Directors.  
D. Gillies, Esq., Chairman.  
Chan Kik Shan, Esq.,  
C. J. Hirst, Esq.,  
A. B. McKean, Acting Chief Manager.

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN LONDON.

THOMAS CARMICHAEL, Esq.—Messrs. Dent  
Palmer & Co.  
JOHN BUTTERTY, Esq.—Messrs. John Buttery &  
Co.  
C. B. STUART-WORTLEY, Esq., M.P., for Hallam.  
G. W. F. PLAYFAIR, Manager.

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SHANGHAI.

Hsi Fuyuen, Esq.,  
Ma Kie Tchong, Esq.,  
Tong Kwei Sung, Esq.,  
J. D. THORBURN, Manager pro. tem.

THE Head Office now receives Money on deposit and makes advances on Goods in neutral Godowns, and upon other securities, on terms to be had on application.  
Hongkong, 27th August, 1891. [1166]

### THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL.....\$2,000,000.  
PAID-UP CAPITAL.....\$500,000.

#### LONDON:

Head Office.....40, Threadneedle Street  
West End Office.....25, Cockspur Street.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN  
AND THE COLONIES.

THE BANK receives MONEY ON DEPOSIT, Buys and Sells BILLS OF EXCHANGE, ISSUES LETTERS OF CREDIT, FORWARDS BILLS OF COLLECTION, and Transacts Banking and Agency Business generally, on terms to be had on application.

E. W. RUTTER,  
Manager. [116]

## Insurances.

THE STANDARD:  
A SCOTTISH LIFE OFFICE OF 64 YEARS STANDING, AND ONE OF THE WEALTHIEST AND MOST PROGRESSIVE OF THE PROVIDENT INSTITUTIONS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE Standard has a long record of good services to refer to; its Funds, annually increasing, amount to £7,000,000 Stg.; the Premiums are moderate; and all modern features consistent with safety have been adopted.

DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,  
Agents, Hongkong.

SOUTH BRITISH FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND.

THE Underwriters are prepared to accept FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCES on favourable terms.

Current rates and a guaranteed Bonus equal to that paid by the local Offices.

GEORGE R. STEVENS & Co.,  
Agents.  
No. 2, Queen's Road, Hongkong.  
Hongkong, 31st March, 1891. [114]

#### NOTICE.

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED.....\$1,000,000.

The above Company is prepared to accept MARINE RISKS at CURRENT RATES on Goods, &c. Policies granted to all Parts of the world payable at any of its Agencies.

WOO LIN YUEN,  
Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE.

No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST,  
Hongkong, 1st February, 1892. [116]

#### GENERAL NOTICE.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED).

CAPITAL, TARIFFS 500,000; RESERVE FUND.....\$350,000.

RESERVE FUND.....\$350,000.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LEE SING, Esq.,  
LOU TSO SHUN, Esq.,  
MANAGER.—HO AMEL.

MARINE RISKS ON GOODS, &c., taken at CURRENT RATES to all parts of the world.

HEAD OFFICE: 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST,  
Hongkong, 17th December, 1891. [1178]

## Masonic.

### VICTORIA CHAPTER.

No. 525.

A REGULAR CONVOCATION of the above Chapter will be held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on SATURDAY next, the 31st instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely.

Hongkong, 23rd October, 1891. [1154]

### ZETLAND LODGE.

No. 525.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on MONDAY, the 2nd November, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited.

Hongkong, 26th October, 1891. [1179]

## Intimations.

### CRUICKSHANK & CO., LD.

FAMILY AND DISPENSING CHEMISTS,  
AND  
Commission Agents.

#### KOLA WINE, (VAN HARGAN).

TONIC, STIMULANT and RESTORATIVE, unequalled as a Restorative of the Digestive Organs. It strengthens the Mental and Physical powers, and Stimulates the Circulatory and Nervous systems.

DOSE.—A Wine Glass Full with each Meal.  
VINA COCA.  
A Wine Glass Full taken on rising relieves any uneasiness in the stomach, and faintness.

FINE SCOTCH HEATHER HONEY \$1 per bottle.  
Hongkong, 26th September, 1891. [17]

### W. BREWER

HAS JUST RECEIVED

AYRES Footballs and Extra Bladders.  
Boxes of Copper Stencils, Alphabets and Figures.

Send New Stamp Albums.  
Supplement to Former Editions.  
Smith's Dictionaries 1892.  
Latta's Dictionaries 1892.

Waterlow's Multiplex Copying Portfolio.

A B C Telegraph Codes.  
Davies' Engineers Extra First Class.  
The Blowpipe, by Col. Ross.  
Test Book of Assaying.

Cassell's Ten Years in Equatoria.  
Earthquakes, by Borcoswitz.  
New Light Literature.

New Fancy Goods.

W. BREWER,  
UNDER HONGKONG HOTEL.

Hongkong, 15th September, 1891.

### LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

IMPORTERS OF

#### GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS

Packed by CROSSE BLACKWELL & Co., Phillips and Canaud and other 1st class packers.

A FULL STOCK OF FRESH STORES ALWAYS ON HAND.

A REVISED PRICE LIST will be issued on October 1st, 1891; attention is called to the NEW SCALE OF PRICES.

Priced Lists and Pass-books sent, post free, to any address.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Hongkong, 26th September, 1891. [1158]

### KELLY & WALSH, LD.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED,

ex S.S. "MYRMIDON,"

IN SPLENDID CONDITION,

DIRECT FROM THE FACTORY

THE KINNEY TOBACCOS POPULAR BRANDS

OF

SWEET CAPORAL CIGARETTES

AND

STRAIGHT CUT CIGARETTES.

KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED,  
QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONGKONG. [7]

### W. POWELL & CO.'S

IS THE BEST HOUSE FOR ALL KINDS OF HOUSEHOLD SUNDRIES.

COOKING STOVES, all sizes. DRYING-ROOM STOVES, all sizes.

KEROSENE OIL STOVES FOR DRYING-ROOM AND COOKING, made by the best Makers.

LAMPS and LAMP SUNDRIES of every description.

W. POWELL & CO.

Hongkong, 15th October, 1891. [16]

### CARMICHAEL & Co., LD.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS—TOBACCO AND CIGAR IMPORTERS,  
GENERAL STOREKEEPERS AND COMMISSION AGENTS.

SHOOTING STOCKINGS FOR SPORTSMEN.

BUCKSKIN LEGGINGS.  
PORPOISE HIDE BOOTS.

CANADIAN CREAMERY BUTTER AND CHEESE.

CARMICHAEL & CO. LTD.  
18, PRAYA CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 17th October, 1891. [1168]

### ROBERT LANG & CO.

NEW HATS.

BLACK, GREY AND BROWN FELTS

SINGLE TERAI HATS

(ALL SHADIES).

STRAW AND PITH HATS.

Hongkong, 6th June, 1891. [1156]

### MOUTRIE, ROBINSON & CO.

(From 7, Broadwood & Sons and Collard & Collard).

THE PIANO, ORGAN AND MUSIC WAREHOUSE,  
UNDER HONGKONG HOTEL,  
and at London, Shanghai, Kobe and Yokohama.

PIANOS SPECIALLY MADE FOR THIS CLIMATE AND GUARANTEED.

MONTHLY PAYMENTS OR HIRE.

TUNING-REPAIRS.

Instruments made equal to new. Large experience, all Machinery, trained men and Work guaranteed.

OLD PIANOS TAKEN IN EXCHANGE.

16 YEARS extensive experience in China; and the only firm of trained and practical people devoting themselves wholly to the Music and Musical Instrument Trade.

## Auctions.

### PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Underigned has received Instructions to Sell by Public Auction,

SATURDAY, the 31st October, 1891,  
at 2.30 p.m.

at their SALES ROOMS, NO. 1, PRAYA CENTRAL.

The Powerful and Fast Steam Launch

"FALCON,"

lately belonging to Messrs. RUSSELL & Co.

Length between perpendiculars 57 feet

Beam.....8.....11 inches

Depth moulded.....4.....6 inches

Tandem H.P. Compound Engines; Cylinders

8 inches and 14 inches.

The Boiler is in good condition.

Lantern has been thoroughly overhauled by

the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company

and is in First-Class Order.

Also

The well-known Yachts

"NAOMI" and "ARIEL."

"NAOMI,"

Dimensions.

Length on deck.....53' 9"

Beam.....11' 9"

Depth moulded.....8' 8"

With Lead Keel, 11 tons 8 cwt., and a ton

inside Lead Ballast. She was sheathed with

Copper in 1887 and is furnished with a complete

suit of sails and gear, including racing sails.

"ARIEL,"

Dimensions.

Length on deck.....44' 6"

Beam.....8' 6"

Depth moulded.....7'

With Lead Keel about 9 tons and Lead Ballast;

complete suit of sails, including racing sails and

gear.

TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery. For

further particulars, apply to

GORDON & CO.,  
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 21st October, 1891. [1134]

### To be Let.

TO LET.

With Immediate Possession.

FIRST and SECOND FLOOR HOUSE:

No. 5, Chancery Lane, Six Rooms with

Bath Rooms, newly painted and repaired.

Apply to

J. M. V. DE FIGUEREDE,

No. 5, Caine Road.

Hongkong, 28th October, 1891. [1137]

TO LET.

BAHAR LODGE, THE PEAK.

R. B. LOT No. 59.

THIS desirable residence with Gas laid on

to be Let Furnished or Unfurnished.

Apply to

HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND

AGENCY Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 12th May, 1891. [710]

TO LET.

SHOP in Pedder's Street; ROOMS on First

Floor, Suitable for offices.

Also

One FURNISHED BEDROOM on Top

Floor.

Apply to

CRUICKSHANK & Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 21st October, 1891. [935]

THE KOWLOON LAND AND BUILDING

COMPANY, LIMITED.

TO LET.

AT KOWLOON.

A FEW HOUSES IN KNOTSFORD TER-

RACE containing 3 Rooms each and

Bath-rooms. Tennis Courts. Healthy situation.

Cheap Rent.

Apply to

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT

AND AGENCY Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 6th August, 1891. [1080]

### Consignees.

"MOGUL" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "SIKH,"

FROM HAMBURG, LONDON, LIVERPOOL,

STRAITS, &c.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed

that all goods are being landed at their

side, into the Godowns of the Kowloon Wharf

and Godown Company, at Kowloon, whence

and/or from the wharves delivery may be

obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless

notice to the contrary be given before Noon.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods

have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining

undelivered after the 3rd prox. will be subject

to rent.

All claims against the Steamer must be pre-

sented to the Underigned on or before the 3rd

prox, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be counter-signed by

DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 27th October, 1891. [1136]

## Shipping.

### STEAMERS.

DOUGLAS STEAM-SHIP COMPANY,

LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY, AND FOCHOW.

THE Company's Steamship

"NAMO,"

Captain Goddard, will be despatched for the

above Ports TOMORROW, the 30th instant, at

Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS, LAIRDALE & Co.,  
General Managers.

Hongkong, 28th October, 1891. [1179]

## Shipping.

### STEAMERS.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

FOR QUEENSLAND PORTS, SYDNEY

AND MELBOURNE.

(Calling at Singapore and Java) and taking

through cargo for ADELAIDE, NEW ZEALAND

PORTS and TASMANIA.

THE Company's Steamship

"MIKE MARU,"

Captain J. B. Macmillan, will be despatched for

the above Ports on SATURDAY, the 31st inst.,

at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 17th October, 1891. [1132]

FOR NEW YORK (VIA SUEZ CANAL).

THE Steamship

"HANKOW,"

Captain West, will be despatched as above

on or about the 7th November, instead of as

previously advertised.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 19th October, 1891. [1207]

"UNION" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR SHANGHAI.

THE Steamship

"PORT FAIRY,"

Captain Starkey, will be despatched as above

on or about the 2nd proximo.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,  
Agents.



WHAT is Monopoly? A corporation in which other fellows hold all the stock.

VICHHARRAVAC, 18,950 feet above the sea, and Uccaparrata, 16,158 feet, mining camps in Peru, are the highest inhabited places in the world.

Young Shanghai—Is my cigar offensive?  
H. K. Trader—Oh, No; I've lived too long on Praya Central.

It's a mistake to suppose that the social lion is the king of beasts. The social lion in Hong-kong is generally a despicable jackass.

Mrs. Blinks—I've just discharged my amab.  
Mrs. Winks—What for?  
Mrs. Blinks—She displayed too much interest in Blink's trousers pockets.—That was my right.

Mr. W. H. Treacher, C.M.G., Secretary to the Government of Perak, has returned from his leave of absence in England, and resumed the duties of his office.

The health-giving banana goes back to the earliest days. Alexander's soldiers, as Pilay says, joined the sages of India seated in its shades and partaking of the delicious fruit.

Mr. Banker—I have reformed. Instead of worshipping lovely woman I worship the almighty dollar.  
Mr. Snear—Trying to compete?

THE Hongkong Volunteers intend giving a promenade concert at their head-quarters on the evening of Saturday next, the 31st inst. Business commences at 9 p.m. All friends cordially invited.

THE *Strait Times* says that at the end of this month Mr. Bibby will use the Raub Battery to crush one hundred tons of gold-bearing ore for the Malay Peninsular Prospecting Company.

Boggs—Quite a surprise! Went home to tiffin and found my wife had a half-breed boy.  
Toggs—Great Jupiter!  
Boggs—Yes, she'd discharged her English maid.

AMONG the passengers leaving to-day by the *Swarat* were Dr. and Mrs. Canille, bound for India's golden strand on a three months holiday. We hope the manly doctor and the guide will enjoy their trip, and soon and safely return.

CAPT. HANS PETERSEN, late manager of the Menam Flotilla Co., shot himself with a revolver on the 17th October. He had been suffering from exposure to the sun, but had apparently recovered just before he blew his brains out.

SHIH WAS RIGHT—A school teacher asked a little girl how many bones there were in her body, and her answer was 208. "Wrong; there are only 207," said the teacher. "Yes'm," was the triumphant response, "but I swallowed a fish-bone to-day."

Mrs. Peake—I hate that Bong-Tong Trading Co.  
Mrs. Jiblets—What have they done now?  
Mrs. Peake—Why they sent out an express yesterday which said that during the month the largest steamer in Hongkong was way down, and that could only have referred to me, the mean things!

WE extract the following from the *Bangkok Times* of the 17th inst.—"The numerous friends of Mr. C. H. Schmidt, late manager of the Oriental Hotel; gave him a hearty 'send off' on Monday evening last at the Bangkok Hotel, the parting guest being entertained at a banquet. The party, consisting of twenty-three residents, passed the time very pleasantly, and wound up by literally carrying their guest on board his steamer—the *Phra Nang*, bound for Hongkong."

INSPECTOR JOHN BUTLIN and five policemen at Shau-ki-wai raided a gambling house last night and succeeded in capturing twelve prisoners, who were in the act of playing *po-tiss*. It appears that the gallant inspector had known for some time that these men were engaged in this breach of the law, but could never succeed in capturing them. Last night, however, he succeeded in stealing on the watchmen they had on the look out, and seized them before they could give the alarm; he then made a rush into the house closely followed by his subordinates. About twenty men were gambling, and he was immediately saluted with the lighted kerosine lamp, which he fortunately wardied off with his hands, which were cut pretty severely. After a fight in the dark for about half an hour in which one of the Chinese constables got his head split, the police succeeded in capturing a dozen of them and they were each sentenced to one month's hard labor to-day.

The following extraordinary story is sent by its correspondent to the *London Times*, and is dated Paris, 23th ult.—  
"I have had with a great Russian personage, who is in a condition to be well-informed, the following conversation, which must be read in connexion with the Daldel Agency telegram dated San Francisco, 20th August, relating to a treaty between Russia and Korea. He says:—"The revolution at present going on in China is not, like that of the Taipings, directed against the Dynasty, but, on the contrary, it has been started by the Tung-shi Yangs, and the man who is really directing it is Li Hung-chang, the successor of the famous Marquis Tsiang, who is an intelligent man and above all a patriot. His plans consist in driving out the European element by opposing thereto an actual Chinese migration both on the Russian frontier, a length of 4,000 miles, and on that of Tongking. In the direction of the valley of the Loh and the region of the Ussuri and the Amoor we have given back to China 15 millions of the yellow race, and the migration is still far from having reached its terminus. A veritable barbaric invasion is what is conceived by these Chinese statesmen. The Black Flags were and still are in their power, as also the alleged revolution, with their party, worded 'Down with the foreigners.' The Russian Government is defending itself against this invasion as well as it can by sending Cossack settlers in large numbers into the valley of Loh."  
"The two hostile colonies form thus a kind of disguised cordon of troops like those formerly on the Turkish frontier of Austria. This is one of the reasons, and a very strong one, why Russia does not wish openly to join the other powers now in the region of the Black Sea against aggression. She has little wish to begin a struggle in these regions, which is sooner or later inevitable, before she has completed the railway just commenced, which will enable her in a few days to throw a body of troops on the Chinese frontier. Another reason is that the Russian Government has been striving since 1885 to absorb Corea, which is now already almost independent of China and is directed by a German officer in a direction of course hostile to Russia. A third reason is that the island of Saghalien on the coast of Vladivostok almost absorb all the navy that Russia can spare in these parts."  
"The mother of the young Emperor is at the head of the anti-European movement in China. What I have just told you will confirm the information you published on the Franco-Russian alliance as to their mutual attitude in reference to China, and I believe indeed that, as you said, these are thus far, the principal, if not the sole reasons."

Miss Clara (out shopping).—"How awfully the wind blows, Ethel!"

Miss Ethel.—"Doesn't it! If I had known there was such a gale I would have—"

Miss Clara.—"Remained at home!"

Miss Ethel.—"No; put on my striped stockings."

THE orders of the day at the meeting of the Sanitary Board to be held to-morrow at 4.15 p.m. are as follows:—

Petitions having reference to the bye-laws for licensing and regulating Common Lodging-houses. *Agenda*.—1. Letter from Honourable Colonial Secretary regarding the office of Surveyor to the Board. 2. Letter from Honourable Colonial Secretary regarding Cemetery Bye-law. 3. Mortality Returns for the weeks ended the 17th and 24th October, 1891. 4. Application to construct a public latrine on Marine Lot 99.

CHUNG FAT, a contractor, was charged before Mr. Wise at the Magistracy this morning, with disobeying a summons which was issued at the instance of Mr. Sammy King, who is monarch of the land bailiffs, for cutting earth above Richmond Terrace and doing a lot of damage to the young fir trees there. The defence was that he was not aware that he had to come up, and that he had bought the earth from some friends. "Gully." (That is the worst of trying to own the earth.) Contracts are not flourishing just now, and he could not pay \$10 so he goes into banishment for a month.

FOURTEEN new names, remarks the Sydney Bulletin, were added lately to the roll of N.S.W. solicitors, which now numbers considerably more than 600. Law is a very payable industry if managed properly. Five leading legal firms in Sydney net between £10,000 and £20,000 each per annum, which is a tolerable profit when you come to think that most of the work is done by clerks. As *prospects* of the magnificent salaries paid to managing clerks, a certain Australian solicitor sometime ago engaged a young English solicitor to conduct his business (salary £150 per annum) while he toured the Continent. The Englishman annexed £3,000 and disappeared, and has never been captured although a warrant was issued for his arrest. Last Christmas the writer of this par came across the quondam managing clerk at a big coffee-palace in a neighbouring province—where he held the onerous position of "boots."

ALAS, poor Willard! We knew him well here. He worked hard, and struggled so bravely that he really deserved to succeed on the strength of that alone; but other circumstances were too strong. To begin business here is bad anyhow, and the best combination on earth would be but feebly received. Then, while some of his company are distinctly bright lights whom it is a pleasure to see and an impossibility to criticise, others are so outrageously careless and foolish that the gen. pub. was constantly disgusted. Then again, business being so bad, it could only have been through the best of sympathy between manager and artists that any interest might have been maintained among them; and owing to a feature of Willard's character on which we had occasion to comment some time ago, this *selfish* *disposition* to commend was so scarce, so that one by one the various members "packed up their trunks like the Arabs and silently stole away," to Stanley's company, to Australia, to anywhere, until now, out of 24 who set out from Australia, he has about half left. This little band is now on its way to India, where it is to be fervently hoped they will do better. The scene on Pedder's Wharf to-day was touching, and on the steamer it was heart-rending. The brokers were all there, and the Diamond Duke in particular was quite broken up. So were all the lamenting crowd, and it is reported that one gentleman was so busy taking his last look at the saloon that the boat sailed with him and he had to come back with the pilot. Great was the assembly of disconsolate ones in the hotel bar when they had gone, and greater the demand for—er, hem—ice cream.

REFERRING to the Interport boat race, the Kobe Herald says:—We paid a visit to the Boat House and measured the boats brought up by the Hongkong Interport crew. The two boats for the "Fours" vary little in their length, one being 43' and the other 43'3/4, with a beam of 2'6" and depth from top of gunwale, amidships, of 2'0" to top of keelson of 2'11" *deep*. The boat in which the Kobe crew will row is 42'9" long with a beam of 2'7/8". The weights of the Kobe and Hongkong boats are as nearly as possible the same, the former boat having thinner planking and less weighty material forward and aft than the latter.

COMPARATIVE WEIGHTS OF CREWS.

Hongkong.		Kobe.	
lbs.		lbs.	
174	stroke	190	stroke
159		175	
152		150	
152		150	
Total 637		Total 665	
		637	
		28 lbs. differe.	

It is thus seen that the Kobe boat has the advantage in weight of the crew of 28 lbs., but as the Hongkong men are wiry and athletic the crew that beats them will have had no easy race to pull. As for the remarks in the *Hongkong Daily Press*, regarding the crew, we think the man that penned them must have done so in a very illiberal spirit, and they certainly should receive the condemnation they deserve as being in exceedingly bad taste. Wanted, a Competent Journalist etc.

SUPREME COURT.

THE FULL COURT, APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

(Before Sir James Russell and Mr. E. J. Achroyd.)

October 29th.

THE SAME OLD TANG A LOK.

This was an appeal brought by Tang Tung Shan against a judgment of the Acting Peking Judge, deciding an issue in the Tang A Lok administration case, in which he ruled that Tang Yung Man had interest on which he might contest the will of Tang A Lok. The appellant defendant in the original suit was represented by the Acting Attorney General and Mr. Robinson, instructed by Messrs. Wotton and Deacon. The respondent, plaintiff in the original suit, was represented by Mr. Francis, O.C., and Mr. Phillippe instructed by Mr. Holmes.

In the absence of Mr. Leach, Mr. Robinson opened the case, saying that the appeal was based on Rule 38, sec. 1 of the Judicature Act, and an order of the Chief Justice.

The Chief Justice said he had no record and no recollection of the order referred to, although it was mentioned in the pleadings as an ordinary and duly executed order. There was something unusual about the matter.

Mr. Robinson went on to say that he was instructed for a reversal of the judgment, and for a

interest in the estate, his father having been the illegitimate son of the testator. It was a matter of evidence, and he urged that the judgment was against the weight of evidence.

Then Mr. Robinson began to review the evidence. The facts of the case are about as interesting as "Fragrant Waters Mummur," and the learned gentleman—personally the most capable of our lawyers—has a style of delivery which to a layman is easily wearisome. Then (worse still) Mr. Achroyd began to read, and did not know what it was—and sleep, gentle, balmy, sweetly innocent sleep came over the company, and soon the languid swing of the judicial punkkas was beating time to the subdued hum of gentle respirations, mingled with stertorous—

Noat Bl the Hoffa Gole.—The noo RePorter as halways a eddake wene a goso to the Cort e makes a perlick Exhibition of itself bl goin to keep hall over the Press Gally with is mouth open. Wide Hope an is feast grate jumpin Jocsassin sumblin to the fact stoppe the Punkas workin I went to get some copy from the Press how an e was that fast asleep an everybuddy els in Cort was asleep to an face was aiff hoif as yushel so I put hal to the cort blunkpotts an paper wates an thangs in is mouth an all the loiers quill Pens stickin on is of Teeth an e doent no it.

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### CORRESPONDENCE.

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[We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

SIR,—In your issue of the 27th Inst. I read a letter signed "Gauntlett," *vs* Mitchell and Macdonald.

In replying to the same I first wish to Impress on the mercantile community that I neither know the above two gentlemen referred to, nor have any interests whatever in their behalf.

The paragraph preceding Gauntlett's letter referring to a great hall, which you, (E.D. H.K.T.) deemed it wise not to publish, with the view not to hurt the feelings of the two gentlemen named, I consider was a most prudent thing to do. If it was even anything approaching the expressions contained in the first part of the letter published for the public to read. In my opinion it is most scurrilous indeed.

I presume from the words "If our association," in Gauntlett's letter, that he is a member of the mercantile community, and I very much regret to think that he is, and that he should have so far forgotten himself as to write in the strain he has done, and at the same time I most sincerely hope that the expressions contained therein will not meet with the approval of members of the profession.

"Gauntlett," in taking up the case of B. and S. *versus* Wilkinson (*sic*) I quite agree with, but at the same time feel sorry that he could not have done so in more gentlemanly language, which would have tended to elevate the profession and not have a demoralising effect. Should he (Gauntlett) be an officer in the Mercantile Marine I would have him to understand that the definition of the same in my opinion is that of a sailor and gentleman combined, and also that when anyone, irrespective of creed, caste, colour, or nationality may have a grievance, or fancy that a cross injustice has been done, I cannot imagine a more satisfactory manner of assuring themselves whether they are right or wrong than through the medium of the press; and that the "Hongkong Telegraph," the Editor of which paper exemplifies that old saying "If a friend in need is a friend in deed." But for heaven's sake let the public have eloquence without ignorance, and not shew a depraved mind as Gauntlett has done in trying to vindicate the case of Mr. Wilkinson.

That Mr. Wilkinson acted wrongly in refusal of duty there can be no denying, but at the same time I am very much sorry that Messrs. B. & S. should have resorted to such strenuous measures as to insist on his commitment to prison. Refusal of duty at sea amounts to mutiny, but in harbour, it might be overlooked by simply asking the officer to resign. In saying this, I may be even suggesting what might not have been an easier matter, as in viewing a case it must be done from both sides—employer and employee. What may have been the cause of the employee may not have been convenient to the employer, such as that the vessel may have been ready, or nearly ready, to proceed to sea, and it may be that the detention (which means expense) till the officer could have been replaced.

In conclusion I express my deepest sympathy with Mr. Wilkinson, and most sincerely hope that when he comes out of prison, the fact of his having been there will not be the cause of other owners refusing to give him employment.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, in anticipation for inserting this reply in your valuable paper when time and space will permit.

I remain,

Yours, &c.,

MASTER MARINER,  
(Card enclosed).

Hongkong, October 29th, 1891.

[Very good letter. The only alteration we could suggest is that the man's name be spelt right, "Wiltshire."—Ed.]

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### SIAM'S FIRST STATE RAILWAY.

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The tenders for the Korat Railway were opened at Bangkok on the 15th, in the presence of representatives of Messrs. Panchard and Co., Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Hurst, Mr. Beckett, of the British Legation, and representatives of the tenders. Some discussion in heated language took place over the presence of Mr. Blech, and those not tending were asked to leave the room, which they did.

Two tenders only were presented, though it was understood that a third was in the hands of the Prime Minister\* who had evidently forgotten to forward it in due time." *The Bangkok Times* says—

"The tenders for the construction of the Naga-ras Railway, Let of the Royal Siamese State Railways were, in conformity with the decision published in the *Bangkok Times* in June last, opened by the Director-General of the Department on Thursday last at the Sarayam Palace. Two tenders only had been submitted up to noon; one from Messrs. Campbell Murray & Co., railway contractors of Singapore, and the other from Mr. Lentz the representative of a firm in Stettin, Germany. The former, who we understand, are very strongly supported by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., offer to take the contract, subject to certain modifications already agreed upon about 7,000,000 *thaits* (or nearly one million sterling) less than 10,000,000 *thaits* less than the offer made by the German syndicate, who tendered for some 12,000,000 *thaits*. This being the case, it may be assumed that the contract for the construction of Siam's first State railway will be given to the English firm, who, besides having considerable experience of railway construction in the Straits Settlements, are backed by one of the wealthiest firms in the Far East and have extensive connections in Europe."

Some further particulars were given by the *Siam Mercantile Gazette*—

The first tender, that of Messrs. Murray Campbell & Co. of Singapore amounted to 12,000,000 *thaits*. The second presented, by a German syndicate represented by Mr. Lentz, was for 10,000,000 *thaits*.

sum at the rate of *flats* to to the 2, the amount of the second tender totalled *flats* 11,976,025. It will be seen that Messrs. Murray and Campbell's tender is therefore *flats* 2,331,000 lower than that of the German Syndicate. The derivation of Siamese Government is expected in a fortnight.

As Messrs. Campbell & Co's. offer is nearly 2½ millions below that of the German Syndicate it is only reasonable to expect that that Firm's offer may be considered as accepted, as no other tenders can now be received.

We are delighted that this important work will now at last be undertaken, and the Siamese are certainly fortunate in having secured so remarkably low an offer. The successful contractors will have to be very careful of their figures to have made so bold a bid, and the probability of many practical men the line ought to read considerably more. Messrs. Campbell & Co. had, however, large experience already in building long lines in the Protected States, and being backed up by the powerful firms of Jardine Matheson & Co., and Matheson & Co. of London, there is little doubt that the work will be creditably carried out.

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### RUSSIA IN CENTRAL ASIA.

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ALLAHABAD, September 27th.

No further news has been received regarding the affair on the Pamirs. The Russians can readily be proved to have no right to annex up to the Hindu Kush, for in 1873, General Kaufmann, Governor of Turkestan, reported that the Chinese frontier extended westwards to Wakhan, in the eastern portion of which Victoria Lakes lies. This was accepted at St. Petersburg at the time as being an accurate definition of the boundaries and nothing has happened since to alter its validity. The Russians are now reported to be collecting stores and erecting quarters for troops at Ishkik Jund, on the Kuskh river, some fifty miles south of Fandjeh and eighty north of Herat. They have also increased the strength of their garrison of Yulistan, south of Merv.

September 29th.

The rumour continues to circulate that Captain Yaghusband has been killed, but there are no grounds whatever for supposing such is the case. Lieutenant Stewart, 5th Gurkhas, with a party of sixteen sifles, was expected to reach the Tagdumbash Pamir, the middle of this month, and Captain Yaghusband's safety would then be absolutely ensured.

September 30th.

Capt. Yaghusband reports that winter has already set in on the Tagdumbash Pamir, his last letter being written in a snowstorm. He will be compelled, therefore, to leave soon for Kashmir.

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### NAGASAKI.

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(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

October 21st.

Now we have one of the finest cruisers that ever floated on salt water in our harbour; need I say that I am referring to that splendid specimen of naval architecture under the star-spangled banner, the U.S.S. *Charleston*; but, since, alas! to carry her stripes and stars to port presently, I will not dwell on her particular; you will be able to judge for yourself ere long.

The *Marlin*, from Behring Strait *viz* Honolulu, en route for the Yangtze is expected here shortly, to coal. From Vladivostok we expect three Russian men-of-war, also en route for the Yangtze, to coal here; they are the *Korvitz*, the *Nachik*, *Nachik*, and the *Pamlat* *Avouat*. The latter the one that took the *Crawfield* out to the Far East; you think she will be able to come up to Shanghai, and will have to stay at Woosung. She has a speciality of self-acting boat lowering apparatus, which I would recommend the Committee of the Mercantile Marine Officers Association to study, or any way, the marine superintendents of your big shipping firms, and the Surveyors for "Lloyds" and "Veritas," or Agents of Marine Insurance Companies.

I also hear from Vladivostok that out of the 38 convicts broke away, only eight more are at large, the rest having been recaptured, or otherwise accounted for, imagine how!

The fortnight's stay of the French vessels in Vladivostok has been marked by no extraordinary enthusiasm, as at Cronstadt; only one official dinner took place, and that was on the anniversary of the Czar's patron saint's day offered by the Russian Admiral in command twelve covers were laid. It was unfortunate that a French officer should have been killed by the escaped convicts; it damped the general spirits and cast a general gloom over the visit from the French Republic. To this general dulness the news of the death of the Grand Duchess Alexandra may have contributed, and will be the more so, as it was bruited about the Nilkittah had something to do with it; but I really believe that it has been a sheer accident.

General Le Gendre passed through here the other day from Seoul, where he holds a high position in the Korean Government service; he suffered from toothache, I believe, and was on his road to consult a dentist in Tokio; he was accompanied by several high Korean mandarins, but if any dental complaint ailed them too, *fama*, was not resorted. "Uninitiated" people think this Tokio trip has something to do with the killing of a few semi-savage Quakap islands, by a number of semibarbarian Japanese fishermen, and the Korean disfigured voyagers almost considered it a lucky windfall, to have for once an opportunity to swoop down on Dai Nippon, and reciprocate gently for past favours. "The *Cops City* is still sunk in our harbour, but I understand the work of raising her is progressing favourably, and the contractors, and others concerned are entertaining sanguine hopes of success."—*Shanghai Mercury*.

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### WUHU.

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(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Wuhu, October 20th.

Taking the prevailing form of our game here at a glance it is easy to prophesy that we shall have a good season for shootists. Several of our local sportsmen have brought home a fair display of pheasants; twenty-nine birds have fallen to one gun in half as many hours.

There is no visible sign of any settlement of the claims of the now almost forgotten Wuhu rats. There seems to be little or no movement made in the matter. Some say they are waiting for the rat of the Mason case. What that has to do with it will tell us. Quakap islands.

Smoking concerts are always popular among the sons of Neptune, as the event of an entertainment given on Saturday last by the ever hospitable Customs' staff on the departure of H.M.S. *Peach* proved. Jack showed himself as on all occasions, equal to his duty, and appeared right in his element; many rattle songs on all imaginable topics were sung by these brave and sturdy "Tars" who succeeded in impressing upon us that "England is truly England, yet." The *first* of *England* of the *Wuhu* was written and sung by Mr. Allister, which was met with a loud and vociferous cheering the audience got up one man, and "hoisted" him. It proved that the author of "The Wuhu Hallucination" was



H.M.S. *Redoubt* reached here from Chinkiang today and relieved the *Peacock*. I regret to state that this latter vessel has been most unfortunately during her stay in this port, she having lost three of her crew and several having gone to hospital through sickness.—*Mercury*.

## TIENTSIN.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

TIENTSIN, October 16th.  
Mr. Ma Kie-tseung left here via Chiaofo for Shanghai in the steamer *Hsinshing*, not to rejoin the C. M. S. N. Co., but to make arrangements for paying about T11, 200,000, that was short in his accounts.

It is said that the Viceroy of Nanking, although one of the directors of the C. M. S. N. Co., with Li Hung-chang, has memorialized the Throne, against the Company, and all blame as to the losses is laid on the shoulders of Tsai Sheng and Mr. Ma Kie-tseung.

The *Wuchang* and *Haiting* managed to get to the Bund last night, and are now on their way down the river. At 2.40 this morning the high-water mark on the Taku bar was 13 feet. The British gunboat *Firbrand* got up as far as the Tientsin Bend last night, and will remain there till the *Haiting* gets off the ground so as to allow her to pass.

By the *Haiting*, Prince Vassinsky and suite will leave for Shanghai, and the *Wuchang*, from there they will go overland through Yunnan, to Tonquin, Annam and Siam, and thence via India, Persia, etc., to St. Petersburg. The Board of Admiralty at Peking has issued a despatch, dated the 17th instant, to a firm at your port, urging them to act at once in regard to the Shingking Mines. This does not look as if they expected war, or even trouble.

October 17th.

I see by your leading article, written from information obtained from the Peking correspondent of the *Daily Press*, that the Shantung troops refuse to serve under the present Governor. I do not think there is a bit of truth in it.

I may also remark that the Nanking correspondent to the *Recorder*, D. W. N., and his conversation with the military man is "boosh." His military man is supposed to say: "The attacks on Foreign property were in order to make the Government suffer by having to pay for the property destroyed." It is a well-known fact that the military hate foreigners just as much because the position they hold prevents them, but when the military get up a riot and the military come along to help the foreigners, they help them with a vengeance. As a rule they join the mob and help them to rob and sack Foreign premises, and encourage the mob. I advise the Foreigners never to trust the military in the case of a riot, or they will trust to a very rotten trick.

The *Daily Press* correspondent is nearer the fact when he says: "Nobody but Li Hung-chang can deal successfully with the crisis." But Li looks first to himself and his own interests, and may be sure he will not move unless he is down right forced to. While the trouble is in the Yangtze Valley, Viceroy Li does not care a pin; he is quite happy to have trouble in that quarter. It is just what he wants. He wants China, in fact, to see to it that where he rules as High Commissioner of the North all is quiet and tranquil. He wants the power to see the difference between his power and the power of his colleague the High Commissioner of the South, Liu Kun-yi, who has been so graciously favoured by their Majesties against his wishes. In the South, he says, there are riots and rebellion, but here in the north, we have peace and loyalty. It is foolish enough to think that he has been the means of causing a split amongst foreign nations. No doubt he has done his best to turn the current away from China. He is pleased that Russia is not a favourite subject—Prince Vassinsky—who is to travel through China, Tongking, Annam, Siam, India, and Central Asia, back to St. Petersburg, on a tour of inspection. Li managed successfully to degrade Admiral Lang last year in a British port by pulling down his flag, and he knows well enough how to arrange with Great Britain, and the cry of "wolf" don't scare him a little bit.

It does not look as if England were likely to go to war with China, when only yesterday the British Consul here, accompanied by Capt. Harve, R.N., who is agent for the Nordenfletts, and who lately landed some of these guns at Taku, called upon Li. The call was made to push these guns against Krupp's to be sent to Taku to see them fired. It does not look much like war when we see Great Britain and Germany vying with each other in the sale of arms. Li knows what he is about. He is not blind, but knows well enough that by making a good contract for arms or railway material with either England, France or Germany that he can buy along to the North, and use the trouble there and threaten Tientsin, and he knows that you will see the wily old Viceroy on his hind legs, scurrying around, willing to do anything and come to any terms. What fools we Foreigners are after all.—*Shanghai Mercury*.

## BOGUS BANKS.

The closing months of 1891 promise favourably to see the death and burial of most of the bogus banks of Australia. Within the last few years these institutions have broken out like an epidemic in all parts of this continent, but more especially in New South Wales. They more nearly arose suddenly and without warning. In the evening there was only a void, and in the morning there was a well-known bank, with an enormous paid-up capital, and a ponderous reserve fund, and a large sum in the way of profit and loss account. There was an empty office to-day, and to-morrow there was a glaring prospectus, also a table and three cane chairs, a Hebrew with an overhanging beard, a pot of ink, and an advertisement, and out of these materials the private bank was constructed. Some of these establishments had a more or less remote connection with time-payment furniture and photographs that are traded off on the instalment plan; some of them also dealt in bills of sale and loans which are secured by a mortgage on the bedstead; and they all had a long list of directors who struggled desperately to lend a solid, solvent, efficient expression to their names by affixing "Esq." to the bald and naked "John Hogg" with which nature had endowed them. Now and then some especially thick-headed and impetuous legislator appeared on the scene, but there was a second-hand aspect about the board and the entire office—an unspeakable and indefinable subdued air of back lanes and the three-carriage which prevented the new institutions establishing an influential connection in monetary circles. The staffs were too close together, and it had too much of its own hair and bogus jewellery on its claws, and it grabbed too hungrily after the deposits, and it was too ready to offer any off its deposit-receipts for hard cash, and taking all it could get, and was too ready to have been a transparent fraud, from the basement ascription on the front-door, to the basement in the yard—from the chairman of the board down to the office boy—a fraud in its advertisement and its prospectus and its balance-sheet—in its

general manager and its auditors—in the howling, its painted on the plate-glass window, and in the blatant anarchy on its note-paper, and the soul-destroying perjury on its official seal and its gigantic brass-plate. In short, the average Australian private bank started as an imposture at the beginning, and will remain one till it bursts, and in all its dealings there is no good in it.

There are certain infallible signs by which the bogus banks can be invariably distinguished from those other institutions which were built to last. Instead of being merely built to burst in the first place, none, or hardly any, of them had any visible beginning. They appeared in a full-grown state, without notice or any apparent process of formation. Even in a country where money is much more plentiful than in Australia, the organization of a great financial institution is a work of time. It is necessary to get the capital together, and the list of shareholders is generally made up of the names of well-known capitalists. But the majority of the new "banks" of recent years were through no preliminary stage whatever, so far as the public eye could discern, and the £20,000 or so of paid-up capital was subscribed mostly by unscrupulous insolvents, tenth-rate pawnbrokers, cheap and gaudy clerks, and miscellaneous individuals in up-to-date clothes, who had formerly lived, with no visible means of support, as commission-agents with no commissions, or as money-lenders with no money to lend. They were shifty-looking persons with no furniture, no banking accounts, and no assets; some of them had been in jail, some of them were endowed with *allais*, a good many had been correspondents, and almost all were otherwise shady. All combined they could not reasonably be suspected of even the semblance of affluence, and the assertion that they had put up the alleged capital of even the smallest bank that ever existed, without turning a hair, was a palpable absurdity. The manager of the institution was generally fit and appropriate company for the founders, inasmuch as he seldom looked like a man whom any sane board would leave in an unchained condition in the vicinity of any capital—paid-up or otherwise. The board, as already mentioned, consisted mostly of certain obscure persons, all of whom were denominated "Esq." Half of them gave no addresses, and the other half hailed from localities where capital is notoriously scarce. And, finally, the auditors were almost invariably some new individuals who had just opened a small office in a back street, and who had no reputation to lose if they attested and swore to the solvency of everything and everybody in one act.

The bogus bank, having got over its preliminary stage, and emerged into the present tense, may also be known by the manner in which it pays lavish dividends and bonuses after deposits that are fixed for three years, in particular—at any price. It professes to make its income by discounting bills, granting overdrafts, and lending out money on mortgage, and in all these branches of industry it is almost impossible to realize more than 7 per cent. all round on a steady average. The legitimate bank, therefore, seldom pays anything like a respectable dividend for the first few years of its existence. It lends out its own capital; it also receives advance sums on current account *without interest*, and lends a considerable portion of the same, therefore, at a clear profit; it prints notes and lends them at interest—another item which is mostly profit; it pays small rates for deposits, and makes advances at high rates with the proceeds; it gains a small but never-failing income from the accidental destruction of notes which go out in exchange for hard cash and never come back; and even with all these and many other sources of income its progress is generally slow. It is only when a large reserve fund has been accumulated that it begins to begin to pay large dividends; and even then in a period of great depression it often gets into serious difficulties. The National Bank of New Zealand, as a fair example, has written off more than two-thirds of its capital in losses resulting, not so much from bad management, as from hopeless stagnation; and all the profits of what is commonly termed "legitimate banking" have proved insufficient to make business profitable. But the bogus bank—a term which probably covers three-fourths of the institutions which have sprung up of recent years—has hardly any of these advantages. It has very little paid-up capital to lend—of that fact the long lists of notoriously impetuous directors is a sufficient guarantee. It makes little or no profit out of current accounts, for it pays interest on them, usually at a liberal rate. It has no note issue, and thus a most valuable source of revenue is cut off; and it pays tremendous rates of interest for deposits, which is the one never-failing sign that disaster must come to somebody—or everybody—at some period in the near future. Also, though its visible income is infinitesimal and precarious it almost invariably pays larger dividends from the very beginning than does the legitimate bank with all its multifarious sources of profit.

The practical financial institution lives, in fact, mostly by taking in deposits and lending out the money of depositors, and in most cases it pays for these deposits about two per cent. more than it can possibly hope to realize even in the most profitable branch of business. The working expenses of the establishment, the rents, the lavish salaries, and the bad debts are all unprovided for, and there is a dead loss besides. Therefore the dubious bank always offers its most luscious terms for deposits that are "fixed for three years," that it may have time to burst decently, or to bolt, or to pay the depositors, before the day of repayment arrives. And in many cases it even offers an additional inducement of one or two per cent. on top of the original nine or ten, provided the deposit is renewed for a further term, which is an open and unvarnished acknowledgment that the institution desires, at any cost, to avoid repayment as long as possible. The current rate of interest at that future period may be only 4 per cent., and the banker who jocosely pledges himself to pay 12 or 12, regardless of all chances or contingencies, is obviously a person who would undertake anything, if the date of the undertaking were only far enough ahead. Occasionally, too, he announces in one and the same advertisement that he wants to borrow money from the public at 10 per cent., and is willing to lend money to the public on mortgage at six—a discrepancy which ought to give his scheme away even in a lunatic asylum; for under this system any man could lodge his money back at a reduction of four per cent., and thus get a gratis annuity out of the institution for life. And the establishment which professes to pay lavish dividends by giving away perpetual annuities to everybody is a vain thing and of no account.

Another of the reliable brands and earmarks of the fraudulent bank is the land which it invariably has for sale cheap, on longer and exorbitant terms than were ever offered by any other institution. The deposit is small, and the interest is generally about 5 per cent. although the property was ostensibly bought with money borrowed from the public at nearly twice that figure, and the establishment almost objects to cash, and would rather sell on slow instalments than otherwise. And the reason of this is plain and easy of comprehension: for the land is mortgaged to the last cent; and the instalments, as they come in, are swallowed up in salaries, and interest, or in paying off rampant creditors who decline to renew; and as the company cannot convey the land to the purchaser

when his last payment is made, it has a preference for long terms, and would gladly fix the land-buyer for three years or more, even as it fixes the depositor. The ultimate breakage is inevitable, but if the mass of the deposits fall due just about the time when the bulk of the land transactions are approaching completion, then the establishment can collapse or bolt with a light heart, and a joyous consciousness that it has scooped the last available cent from everybody concerned.

The fraudulent bank is the only institution of its kind which ever inserts the goodwill of its business as a valuable asset in its balance-sheet. It is the only institution which professes to have commenced business by buying up the valuable connection of some impoverished individual who owned nothing but a small office, and paying him a large sum in cash as an equivalent, and when this is done it may be safely assumed that there was no business to buy, and no capital to buy it with, and that the sum in question was stolen out of the deposits and divided among the directors. It is also the only establishment whose balance-sheets show a record of absolutely unflinching prosperity. The genuine bank, however, successful, has its years of depression and loss, but the murky concern, which offers such surprising terms for deposits, always announces a lavish profit, no matter how ruinous the times may be. It may be known also by the fact that profit is always represented by the increase in the two items, "Advances" and "Freehold Property." In other words, these items often decline, while the item "Cash on hand" increases; but in the bogus institution the supply of actual coin is always limited, and the whole profits are concentrated under the two headings above-mentioned. This looks all the more surprising at a time like the present, when freehold property is falling in value daily, and it is difficult to find good securities on which to make advances; but the explanation is sufficiently easy. The advances increase, because the directors and the manager, and the manager's uncle and the directors' brothers, have all taken large overdrafts out of the depositors' money, and "blowed" the proceeds on horses, or jewellery, or wild-cat mines, or ladies with golden hair, and as the money will never be repaid, they charge themselves 40 per cent. interest with a light heart, and the interest keeps the asset inflated. Advances piling up in the balance-sheet, and out of the depositors' money, are deposits, and out of the deposits more deposits are paid and more advances made, and all is joy and serenity. And the "freehold property" also mounts up, because the company bought land to the value of £10,000, on which £9,000 is still owing; and collected £4000 in instalments from credulous purchasers, and the land is now worth only £6000 in a falling market, notwithstanding which fact, the complaisant valuator has given his certificate that the property is now good and sufficient value for £13,000. And because of the surprising prosperity manifested under these two headings, the "goodwill" has also been written up to the limit, and thus the glorious future is assured for everybody concerned.

The bogus bank might possibly eke out a precarious, hand-to-mouth existence on the summit of a land-bomb, but in times of depression, or even in times of moderate prosperity, its case is absolutely hopeless. Therefore, it becomes a mere sepulchre for lost deposits, and a burial-place for dead shareholders, and makes hardly a pretence of solvency. Its one unflinching feature is its ceaseless hunger after deposits. Other banks at times almost hesitate to receive these, and profitable outlets are scarce, and there are paying interest on money which is lying idle in their vaults, but the bogus bank dymours for them at all times and on almost any terms. It will cheerfully undertake to pay nine or ten per cent. to depositors, and ten per cent. more to shareholders, and will offer at the same time to lend money to the public at five or six, quite regardless of the fact that it thereby loses some 15 per cent. in addition to working expenses. It never does lend the money to the public, of course, for some of it goes to stave off impatient creditors, the rest is scrambled for by the directors and the staff; and it is regardless of the 15 per cent. loss—it would lose 65 per cent. with equal ease. Its books are chaos; its balance-sheet is constructed by putting down any figures that will show a profit of 45 per cent.; its officials drift into a state of maudlin recklessness in which they collar the money almost openly as it comes in, and buy jewellery with it; and its paid-up capital and reserve-funds are between £300,000 and £400,000. And then some day a creditor who won't be staved off presents a claim for £100, and after that there is nothing but general chaos and emptiness. Scarcely a bank whose ambition is to get deposits fixed for three years on any terms is utterly and absolutely hopeless and even Peruvian bonds or the repudiated debentures of Honduras are more promising than its securities. And then the liquidation comes on as the final act, and all is over. Nobody sends the directors and manager into penal servitude, for there is a doubt in the alleged mind of the court whether the case was one of fraud or mere negligence. Nobody goes the auditor who swore to the company's prosperity, though he was obviously either a gross swindler or a person who obtained own head-false pretences, inasmuch as he pretended to be an auditor and yet couldn't or didn't audit. The only individual who comes to grief is the junior clerk who got demoralized and took a hand in the general scramble at the last moment, and bought a bangle for a barmoid with the proceeds. And the law always drops on him like billions of bricks, for the code of this Christian land is built that way.—*Sydney Bulletin*.

## NEWS AND GOSSIP.

There are 507 workhouses and 77 prisons in England and Wales.

Herr Tatz is said to be the new German violinist of the first rank.

A wax figure of McKinley has been added to the Tausand collection in London.

The Empress of Germany has had the crown made so as to exactly fit her own head.

Young King Alexander of Serbia is deeply smitten with the Czar's daughter Xenia.

It seems to be an accepted fact in Germany that the Kaiser will visit America in 1893.

The wife of Prince Louis, the future King of Bavaria, has just had her eleventh child.

Meisner's family want £40,000 from France for his studio and unfinished work.

The "civil" clothes of the German Emperor are made by a well-known firm in London.

The Lords of Admiralty have decided on extra pay for officers qualified to act as interpreters.

Mine promoters in London, it is said, are trying to float a sapphire, ruby and diamond, property located in Montana.

An old project in London has been revived—that for a new club in that city, to be composed of resident Americans.

The latest philanthropic scheme in London is a proposed "social home for men." Some of the papers ridicule the project.

The attempt to create a trust in Russia similar to the Standard Oil Company has failed for want of financial backing.

Just about half the railroad which is to connect Jif with Jerusalem has been completed. The remainder will be finished within a year.

Grand Duke George, second son of the Czar, is in such failing health that it has been arranged he shall pass the winter in Algeria.

The father of one of the largest property-holders in London is buried in a glass case on top of one of the finest buildings in the city.

Those of a calculating turn of mind have figured it out that it cost Patti not less than \$20,000 to "open" her theatre in Wales.

Tobacco smoking is growing rapidly in England. During the last fifty years the consumption per head of population was nearly double.

A young lady well known in Berlin society has had her left leg amputated, blood poisoning having been caused by wearing red silk stockings.

As a protest against an increase in the price of gas, shopkeepers in Lisbon have resolved to close their places of business at an unusually early hour.

According to a German insurance paper, the young Earl of Dudley holds the largest life insurance ever effected, the amount being £200,000.

It is in the northern departments of France that the harvest is this year the worst. Elsewhere harvests are hardly inferior to those of ordinary years.

Boiler examinations are not conducted very well in England. The boiler at a brewery in Bolton has just been examined for the first time in twelve years.

An imperial decree has been issued in Germany, forbidding the manufacture and sale of machines for producing artificial coffee-beans, as contravening the law.

At St. Petersburg many factories will be closed this winter and thousands of people will be thrown out of employment. Increasing distress exists among the poor.

The new lunatic asylum for the city of Berlin at the neighboring village of Lichtenberg is to be opened in three or four weeks. It will accommodate 1,200 patients.

Consumption of beer is on the increase all over France, especially in Paris. It has a tendency to make the ordinary gay and lively Frenchman dull and heavy.

The Empress of Austria, the Czarina, the Queen of Italy and the Queen of Roumania are all addicted to cigarette smoking. The former is said to smoke nearly two dozen a day.

The Jews who are pouring into Palestine just now talk so many different languages that, in order to understand each other, they are forced to recur to their old Hebrew mother-tongue.

An American named Sewell of New York has established in the Temple, in the rooms once occupied by Judah P. Benjamin, a library of American law-books for the use of the British Bar.

A wave of emotional religion is passing over some parts of France. A number of Protestant parishes are traveling with tents, preaching the end of the world, barchaded and with naked feet.

A hotel in Hamburg has been built entirely of compressed wood, which by the pressure to which it is subjected is rendered as hard as iron as well as absolutely proof against the attacks of fire.

It is said (*Blasphemous* f. *Klin, Hydrotherapie*, 1891, No. 4) that disease of the heart is very prevalent in Munich where the consumption of beer amounts, on an average, to 565 litres per head annually.

In the recent manoeuvres of the French Army General Saussier, who is looked upon as the future commander of the French armies, allowed himself to be surprised and hemmed in by the enemy's cavalry.

One of the mummies of the Egyptian kings is provided with a set of upper false teeth, the plate being made of carved wood, closely fitted to the month, the teeth represented by brass bosses or studs.

American freight cars carry about thirty tons weight, the cars weighing about nine tons. They are gradually superseding the English cars in that country, where they weigh five tons and carry only seven tons of cargo.

In view of the serious disappointment to guests at the dinner tables of total abstinence people on finding that there is no wine, a total abstinence hostess in London now writes her invitations with "no wine" at the bottom.

A Russian naval lieutenant, who has lived many years in Japan, says that the whole Japanese aristocracy are strongly inclined toward Protestant Christianity, and that they only wait for the Mikado to make the move.

Italy is compelled to support England in the Dardanelles question. With a French army threatening her from the Alps and a Russian fleet in possession of the Mediterranean, the little kingdom would be sorely distressed.

At the Naval Exposition in London there is a colossal electric lamp, constructed by the Admiralty. It gives a light equal to that of 5,000 candles, and is placed in a model lighthouse fifty-six meters above the ground.

It is stated as a curious fact that Paris, with a population of nearly two and a half millions, has less than one hundred negroes within its limits. Statisticians say that the whole of France cannot muster a negro population exceeding five hundred.

Bishop Strossmeyer of Pesth thinks there will be a general European war before 1894, and that before the world is fifty years older Empires and Kings will have gone out of business and Republicanism and common sense be established in every part of Europe.

A man named Gilbert arrested in Marseilles as a tramp, turned out to be the Communist who gave the order to the squad which shot Monsignor Darboy, Archbishop of Paris, in 1871. Gilbert was transported to Caledonia and returned under the general amnesty.

The new German war-ship *Kurfurst Friedrich Wilhelm*, recently launched at Wilhelmshafen, had her first keel plate laid in March, 1890. Three other vessels of similar size, begun at the same time as the *Wilhelm*, are not yet launched. They are building at Kiel and Stein.

The German Government will shortly open negotiations with the princes and nobles who have hitherto enjoyed immunity from the payment of taxes, as under the new income-tax law they will no longer possess this privilege. The chief question to be considered is that of compensation.

A clergyman in New South Wales complains that out of 177 marriages which he has celebrated within the last year, twenty-nine called him out of bed between 11 at night and 6 in the morning. He never knows when he is to have a peaceful night, and on account of a freak of fashion in his parish.

One of Prince Albert's wedding gifts to his bride consisted much attention. It consisted of an entire railroad train of sleeping-cars, boudoirs, saloons and dining-cars, eight carriages in all, gorgeously appointed in every detail. Indeed,

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A NEWLY arrived consignment from Paris of WATCHES, DIAMOND RINGS, BRACELETS, BROOCHES, EAR-RINGS, STUDS, SLEEVE-BUTTONS, and other high-class JEWELLERY, in all the latest fashions and of the first quality.

This is the Finest and Largest Collection ever exhibited in the Far East, and the whole will be sold at MANUFACTURERS' PRICES.

An inspection is respectfully invited.

Hongkong, 24th October, 1891.

[3357]

## To-day's Advertisements.

## ST. JOHN LODGE

OF HONGKONG.

No. 618, S.C.

A N EMERGENCY MEETING of the above named Lodge will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, THIS EVENING, the 29th October, at 8 for 8.30 O'CLOCK precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited. Hongkong, 29th October, 1891. [3372]

## DILIGENTIA LODGE

OF INSTRUCTION.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above named Lodge will be held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on THURSDAY, the 5th November, at 5 for 5.30 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited. Hongkong, 29th October, 1891. [3374]

## THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA, VIA AMOY.

THE Company's Steamship "DIAMANTE," Captain Gerard, will be despatched for the above Ports on MONDAY, the 2nd November, at 5 p.m. For Freight or Passage, apply to SHEWAN & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 29th October, 1891. [3375]

## SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" will be on sale at the Hongkong and Victoria Hotels, opposite the Hongkong Club, and at Pedder's Wharf, EVERY EVENING from 5.30 to 7.30 o'clock.

PRICE .....TEN CENTS. Copies ordered from the Office will be charged the usual rate—25 cents.

Advertisers are reminded that the *Hongkong Telegraph* has by far the largest circulation of any English newspaper published in the Far East. THIS IS GUARANTEED. Terms on application. Hongkong, 14th October, 1891.

## NOW READY.

A SECOND EDITION OF THREE THOUSAND COPIES OF

"THE LAWS OF STORMS IN THE EASTERN SEAS," (by W. Doberck, Director of Hongkong Observatory).

THIS useful work has been re-written and greatly enlarged, and is illustrated by lithographs showing the courses of the typhoons of late years.

The pamphlet is issued at One Dollar, and may be obtained from Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited, Hongkong.

"Lane, Crawford & Co." "G. Falconer & Co." "C. J. Gump & Co." "F. Blackhead & Co." "Hentemann, Herbert & Co." "More & Seimund."

Mr. W. Brown. The Hongkong Trading Co., Ltd. Mr. M. F. de Silva, Canton. Messrs. de Mello & Co., Macao. Mr. N. Moale, Amoy. Messrs. Hodge & Co., Foochow. Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited, Shanghai. Rev. S. J. Smith, Bangkok. Messrs. Saye & Co., Ltd., Singapore. Messrs. Amodee Prince & Co., Paris & London.

or the "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" OFFICE, Pedder's Hall, Hongkong, 17th September, 1891.



**For Sale.**

**FOR SALE.**

**THE TEMPLE BAR HOTEL, SINGAPORE,** the best second-class house in the town; takings over \$1,000 per month. Price \$5,000.  
 Present owner must leave for Europe, owing to ill health.  
 Apply to  
 W. A. W.  
 17, High Street,  
 Singapore.  
 21st October, 1891. [1344]

**FOR SALE.**

**THE ENGINES AND BOILER OF THE CHINESE GUNBOAT "CHOP-CHEUNG."**

**THE** Engines of the *Chop-cheung* were constructed by Messrs. Inghis & Co., of Wanchai, and are of the Compound Inverted Cylinder Direct Acting Surface Condensing type. Cylinders 20 and 18" dia., with a stroke of 25". The Crank Shaft is 6 1/2" dia. at the Crank pin and 7" dia. at the journals. The H.P. Piston Rod is 3 1/2" and the L. P. 3 1/4" dia. The Piston and Connecting Rod bolts are 2" dia. Air Pump 1 1/2" dia. by 19 stroke. Single Acting Circulating Pump 8" dia. by 13" stroke, and Double Acting Feed and Blige Pump (one each) 3" dia. by 13 stroke.

These Engines have been very little used and are in thoroughly good order.  
 The Boiler is of the Horizontal Multitubular type, with three Furnaces and vertical Domes on top. Its dia. is 10ft. 2" by 9ft. 10" long, external measurements; Furnaces, alt. 9" dia. Domes 44" dia. by 4ft. high; Tubes, 148 in number by 3" ex. dia. It is in fairly good condition, having recently undergone considerable repairs, and would last in active service for over five years.  
 For Further Particulars, Apply to  
**GORDON & Co.**  
 Auctioneers.  
 Hongkong, 29th August, 1891. [117]

**HONGKONG TIMBER YARD, WANCHAI.**

**OREGON PINE SPARS AND LUMBER**  
 Always on Hand. **L. MALLORY.**  
 Hongkong, 24th June, 1891. [99]

**NOTICE.**

**FROM** the 1st of November next, the **SHANGHAI BUTCHERY** will be prepared to supply **BROWN LARD IN BLADDERS**, Fresh and Pickled, **ENGLISH PORK, SAUSAGES, &c., &c.**  
 Also,  
**BEEF in joints and corned; BLACK PULDINGS, Pork and Game PIES.**  
**S. R. GALE.**  
 Shanghai, 8th October, 1891. [13]

**CHS. J. GAUPP & CO.**

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 Masters instructed in the use of the "Devisecope."  
 Hongkong, 7th February, 1891. [2]

**INTIMATION.**

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**ENGINEERS' and BLACKSMITH'S MACHINERY and TOOLS.**  
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**SHIPS STORES and REQUISITES.**  
**ALWAYS IN STOCK.**  
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Hongkong, 20th July, 1891. [19]

Printed and Published by ROBERT FRASER, 25, 27, & 29, Praya Street, at the "LAT PAU" Press, Victoria, Hongkong.

